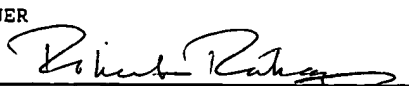


Form PTO-1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		ATTY. DOCKET NO. 142-140		SERIAL NO. 10/660,916			
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)		APPLICANTS Furrer et al.					
		FILING DATE September 12, 2003		GROUP ART UNIT 1711			
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
PR	3,646,155	Feb. 1972	Scott				
	4,117,195	Sep. 1978	Swarbrick et al.				
	4,252,906	Feb. 1981	Hosokawa et al.				
	4,412,042	Oct. 1983	Matsuura et al.				
	5,112,919	May 1992	Furrer et al.				
	5,741,858	Apr. 1998	Brann et al.				
	5,744,553	Apr. 1998	Kempter				
	6,455,637	Sep. 2002	Jackson et al.				
PR	2003/0114604	Jun. 2003	Schlosser et al.				
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
PR	EP 1288235	Jul. 2002	EPO			X	
OTHER PRIOR ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)							
EXAMINER			DATE CONSIDERED				
			10/31/05				
* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.							

(Form PTO-1449 [6-4])

* English translation of EP 1288235.